



U.S. Department of Energy
Office of River Protection

**P.O. Box 450
Richland, Washington 99352**

April 16, 2001

The Department of Energy will sponsor its second annual small business conference on June 20-22, 2001, in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Aladdin Resort & Casino Hotel. The conference theme, "Excellence in Energy with Small Businesses" expresses the Department's goal to provide small business owners and associations the knowledge and tools required to gain contracting opportunities with the Department.

The Department continues to be committed to fully engaging small businesses, including small disadvantaged, 8(a), women-owned businesses, and HUBZone small business concerns, in DOE's core missions. DOE has exciting opportunities to offer small businesses in the areas of commodities, administrative services, science, environmental quality and energy resources.

It is important that business leaders, advocates, and DOE program representatives celebrate the achievements of DOE small business partners, as well as build new and stronger alliances between the small business community and DOE laboratories.

The highlights of the conference will include transition changes within the Department as a result of the change in Administration as it relates to small businesses and e-commerce; an overview of recent enacted legislation; technology transfer initiatives with the Department; contract bundling; proposal and grant evaluations; performance and performance base contracting; E-commerce; partnership and diversity, small business issues for DOE; how to do business with DOE and its laboratories; and available business opportunities.

Additionally, DOE will be inviting other Federal Agencies with correlating missions to participate in our conference as members of panels and as exhibitors. Interagency partnering provides maximum benefit to all small business concerns both in contracting opportunities as well as a vast knowledge of federal contracting in general.

This conference will build on the success of last year's conference and will benefit both small business concerns and the Department of Energy. It is through outreach activities such as this that the Department finds small businesses with the capabilities to match its contracting opportunities.

We look forward to your participation. For more information, please go to the conference website at:

<http://www.bechtelnevada.com/SBAconf/Index.htm>

Sincerely,

/s/

Michael K. Barrett
Contracting Officer